

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please change the paragraph [0031] on page 8 as follows:

If this This is not the first address being selected for a partition 102, at 204, a Fabric Discovery Extended Link Service (FDISC ELS) command is issued using either the source address identifier of zero, or, if known, the new source address identifier using identical service parameters as provided in the original FLOGI command. At 205, the N\_Port 106 receives the address assigned or confirmed by the fabric 110 for use with the requesting partition 102.

Please change the paragraph [0032] on page 8 as follows:

Fig. 3 is a flow diagram of the procedure followed by the fabric 110 in assigning the address identifications requested in the flowchart of Fig. 2, and starts at 300 200. At 301, the fabric 110 receives the ELS command with a partition ID. The partition ID (LPAR ID) may be the worldwide partition number, or any other identification scheme to identify the partition to be associated with the N\_Port address identification. At 302, it is determined if the command is a FLOGI command. If yes, at 303 an address table 116 is established in the name server 114 for the N\_Port 106. At 304, the first address identification (SID) is assigned for this N\_Port 106. At 305, the address identification (SID) is recorded in the table 116, along with the partition identification (LPAR ID), and other parameters needed for the communications protocol to be used to transfer commands and data between the N\_Port 106 and the controllers 120a-m. At 306, the address (SID) is returned to the N\_Port 106.